

Gaping Lane, Hitchin, Hertfordshire, SG5 2JQ

Tel: 01462 456737

Email: admin@samlucas.herts.sch.uk

Website: www.samlucas.herts.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mrs. Tracy Thomas

NEWSLETTER

No. 5 January 2022

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to a new term and Happy New Year to you all; it has been lovely to see the children back in school ready to learn.

Parking

Please take care when driving towards the school and slow down as you come around the corner into Gaping Lane, as there are children crossing. The school car park is used for dropping off and picking up from Play Aloud or after school clubs. In these cases, please use the top car park and park considerably. Please do not pull in alongside the school building and leave your car unattended.



Please do not park or drop off outside the school gates as there are double yellow lines and it is a residential area and residential parking only. Parking permits for parents to use the upper car park, near Waitrose, are available from the school office.

Uniform

Please could long hair be tied up and discreet coloured hairbands may be worn. Please ensure that no large hair accessories or jewellery are worn. In the interest of safety only one set of ear studs are permitted which should be removed or covered during P.E lessons. You can purchase Samuel Lucas uniform from Beats Uniform or order online at <https://beatschooluniforms.co.uk/>



PE days – On PE days children are allowed to come to school in their PE kits. The kit should consist of the red PE top with the school logo and black shorts. In cold weather children should wear their school jumper and black tracksuit bottoms.

As the weather is colder please ensure your child has a warm coat in school each day and that their coat is clearly named.

School Website

The school website can be found at

www.samlucas.herts.sch.uk

Here you can see all the diary dates for the year, class blogs and lots of information including curriculum overview and also statutory policies for your perusal. You can sign up to your class blog and receive a notification whenever there is a new blog to read.

Parent Forum Meetings

Parent Forum meetings will now be held via Zoom by Mrs Thomas and Mrs Kenny, please see dates below:

- Monday 7th February 2022 at 1.30pm (Deadline for agenda items – Friday 28th January 2022)
- Monday 21st March 2022 at 1.30pm (Deadline for agenda items – Friday 11th March 2022)
- Monday 9th May 2022 at 1.30pm (Deadline for agenda items – Friday 29th April 2022)
- Monday 4th July 2022 at 1.30pm (Deadline for agenda items – Friday 4th July 2022)

If you would like anything raised at the meetings please email your year group representative via email:

willow@samlucas.herts.sch.uk

lilac@samlucas.herts.sch.uk

birch@samlucas.herts.sch.uk

hazel@samlucas.herts.sch.uk

hawthorn@samlucas.herts.sch.uk

oak@samlucas.herts.sch.uk

year3@samlucas.herts.sch.uk


year4@samlucas.herts.sch.uk

year5@samlucas.herts.sch.uk

year6@samlucas.herts.sch.uk

Attendance

Well done to **Larch class** for having the highest attendance for this month!



ATTENDANCE – January 2022			
Lilac	96.1%	Ash	97.4%
Willow	96.0%	Larch	98.4%
Hazel	95.4%	Pine	96.6%
Birch	96.5%	Walnut	97.2%
Hawthorn	97.7%	Maple	97.1%
Oak	97.3%	Beech	96.3%
Elm	97.3%	Spruce	96.3%

Please note absences due to COVID do not affect attendance figures.

Everbridge School Closure Notification System

In the event of inclement weather or in an emergency where we would have to close the school, as well as using Parentmail, the school also uses the Everbridge system which is the Hertfordshire County Council's School Closure Notification System. It takes 5 minutes to register your details so that you can receive immediate information and updates. Please sign up for Everbridge using this link:

<https://member.everbridge.net/index/892807736725489#/login>

Sports Update

We have had a busy return to all things PESSPA in school after the Christmas break.

PE

EYFS - we have been developing our core movements in our first lesson back and combining these with ball skills using our hands. The focus for ball skills is on bouncing and catching, rolling and stopping. As the children have been discovering various occupations on their return to school - we have combined this theme with our learning in PE.

Year 1 - Our learning has begun with a Gymnastics unit where our focus is on the theme of 'Wide, Narrow and Curled'. We are looking at creating shapes, movements and balances that incorporate this theme as well as looking at how we transfer them onto the apparatus.

Year 2 - have also been working on a gymnastics unit. We have been looking into the theme of 'Linking'. So far we have looked at how we link a type of roll to a movement, balance or shape and thought about how we transition from one to the other whilst making it flow smoothly. We have also looked at how these might transfer onto the apparatus.

Year 3 - we have been discovering the theme of Symmetry and Asymmetry in our gymnastics lessons and looking at how these shapes, movements and balances might look. We have also thought about how we can be creative and develop our own ideas.

Year 4 - have started work on a Communication and Tactics unit that challenges us to problem solve, use our decision making skills, take on a leadership role and create our own tactics/strategies. Our learning from this unit can be transferred into a variety of sports, so our challenge will be to select the skills we need to use in a variety of scenarios.

Year 5 - we have been learning about Counter Balance and Counter Tension in Gymnastics. So far the children have developed their Counter Balance skills on the floor and have looked at applying our learning onto the apparatus.

Year 6 - have been working on a Titanic themed unit of Dance. We have looked at the story of the Titanic and pooled together our knowledge to create ship balances, the ship docking at port and also looked at the different social classes aboard the ship and how they might have moved and conducted themselves. We have thought about interpretation, emotion and expression when creating our sequences.

Physical Activity

Enrichment has restarted with added activities including a Nature Scavenger Hunt, 60 second challenges and Spikeball.

School Sport

We have a busy couple of months ahead with football and netball fixtures in the diary with Ickleford and William Ransom respectively. We will also be participating in a Year 5 girl's netball festival at St Francis school. The end of season Netball rallies are also pencilled in to take place at Highover and Whitehill schools.

There will also be opportunities for Year 4 children in an U9 Speedstacking competition, an U9 Dodgeball festival and we also have some Year 4 football fixtures organised.

The term ends with an U11 Hockey festival and Hockey Competition at Blueharts Hockey Club.

Well done everyone, you have made a really positive start to the new term - keep up the good work!

Mr Smith

A Note from the SLPA

Hello Parents! We hope you have had a good January. We would like to start our update with a thank you to all of you for your very generous contributions for the SLPA Christmas fund raising activities that were held at the end of last term. We raised nearly £1,600 which is a fantastic amount!

We are delighted to announce that we have some exciting events planned for this term for both you and the children to enjoy, details as follows:

Dress Happy Day on Friday 11th February

Children are encouraged to wear clothes to school on this day that make them feel happy / spread the love theme (no football kits please). Donations to the SLPA for this event are very welcome (but not compulsory) and payments can be made via ParentMail. Further details to follow in a separate email.

Holi Festival on Saturday 19th March

The SLPA are very excited to announce that the colour run will be back this year and to make it even more fabulous we will be combining this with a spring fair type event to celebrate Holi Festival. Further details will follow shortly.

School Disco on Friday 25th March

The eagerly anticipated school disco will return on Friday 25th March. Further details to follow separately.

Easter Egg Hunt on Friday 1st April

And finally, the annual Easter egg hunt will also be held on the last day of the spring term after school finishes.

We would greatly appreciate it if any of you could spare a few hours to help us organise and host the Holi Festival and School Disco. If you are able to volunteer, please contact us at enquiries.slpa@gmail.com

SLPA Lottery

We are happy to share that the SLPA Lottery currently has 92 members! Thank you to everyone who signed up. The lottery draws are made at the end of each month and the winning cheques are delivered to the lucky recipients via their child at school.

Amazon Smile

Amazon Smile brings another opportunity for fundraising with no effort! Please purchase Amazon products having first selected Samuel Lucas Parents' Association as your chosen charity, this can be passed on to family and friends to do too. In the Amazon app, press the three lines at the bottom right, scroll down to AmazonSmile, select Samuel Lucas Parents' Association. You need to renew this every few months, so do check you are generating donations regularly!

Name Labels for Uniform

If you purchase name labels for new school uniform and shoes through either of the below companies and quote our school ID, the SLPA receive a percentage of your order.

www.MyNametags.com ID 35460

www.name-labels.com ID 17422

Join us on Zoom!

We are hoping to hold an online SLPA meeting next week which will be open for any parent / carer to attend and find out more about our events that we have planned and how you can help support us. Details will be sent separately.

Thank you for reading!

The SLPA - Supreet, Natalie, Nicola, Caroline, Jenni and Suzanne.

School Events Calendar

Event	Date	Time	Year Group
Parent Forum	07.02.2022	1.30pm	Class Representatives
Feeling Good Week	07.02.2022-11.02.2022	All Week	Whole School
Dress Happy Day	11.02.2022	All Day	Whole School
Parents Evening	09.03.2022	5-8pm	Reception, Yr 2 & Yr 6
Parents Evening	10.03.2022	4-7pm	Reception, Yr 2 & Yr 6
Class Photographs	16.03.2022		ALL
Holi Festival Colour Run	19.03.2022	TBC	TBC
Parent Forum	21.03.2022	1.30pm	Class Representatives
School Disco	25.03.2022	TBC	TBC
Science Week	28.03.2022-01.04.2022	All Week	Whole School
Reports out to parents	01.04.2022	3.15pm	Y1, Y3, Y4, Y5
Easter Egg Hunt	01.04.2022	TBC	TBC
SATS Week	09.05.2022-	All Week	Year 6

	13.05.2022		
Parent Forum	09.05.2022	1.30pm	Class Representatives
Kingswood	11.05.2022- 13.05.2022	3 Days	Year 4
Isle of Wight	16.05.2022- 20.05.2022	All Week	Year 6
PE Week	13.06.2022- 17.06.2022	All Week	Whole School
Parents Evening	22.06.2022	5-8pm	Y1, Y3, Y4, Y5
Parents Evening	23.06.2022	4-7pm	Y1, Y3, Y4, Y5
Additional Bank Holiday in Lieu – School Closed	24.06.2022	All Day	Whole School
Music Week	27.06.2022- 01.07.2022	All Week	Whole School
Parent Forum	04.07.2022	1.30pm	Class Representatives
Open Evening	06.07.2022	4-7pm	
Transition Day	07.07.2022	All Day	Year 6
Reports out to Parents	08.07.2022	3.15pm	Reception, Yr 2, Yr 6
Sports Day	12.07.2022	9.30-11.30am 1.30-3pm	KS2 KS1 & Reception

Term Dates 2021/2022

Spring Term 2022	
Half-Term break	Monday 14 th – Friday 18 th February
Term Ends at 2pm	Friday 1 st April
Summer Term 2022	
INSET Day*	Tuesday 19 th April
Start of term	Wednesday 20 th April
Bank Holiday	Monday 2 nd May
Half-Term break	Monday 30 th May – Friday 3 rd June
Bank Holiday in Lieu	Friday 24 th June

Spring Term 2022	
Term Ends 2pm	Wednesday 20 th July
INSET Day*	Thursday 21 st July
INSET Day*	Friday 22 nd July

*Children do not attend school on INSET Days or on the OCCASIONAL day

Yours sincerely,

Tracy Thomas

Tracy Thomas
Headteacher